GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3032
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016
Prohibited Mining Areas
Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the areas in which mining has been prohibited by the various orders of the Apex Court of the country;

(b) the steps taken by the Government in this regard in compliance with the Apex Court's orders;

(c) whether in certain areas orders of Apex Court have not been complied; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a) to (d) No state has reported any violation in terms of non-compliance of the Apex Court's orders related to prohibition of mining activities in the specific areas. As per the information received from the Indian Bureau of Mines (a subordinate office under the Ministry of Mines), the details of areas (state-wise) in which mining has been prohibited by various orders of Apex court and the steps taken in this regard, in compliance with the Apex Court's orders are provided below:

ANDHRA PRADESH

As per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, State Government has suspended mining operations in the six iron ore Mining leases in Obulapuram area in Anantpur district due to inter-state boundary dispute vide G.O 723 dated 25.11.2009.

ODISHA

In Writ petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 dated 16.05.2014, the Supreme Court ordered closure of 102 mines (Annexure-II mines of Shah Commission report) in the state of Odisha. After obtaining all statutory clearances the mines are required to obtain permission from the Apex Court for opening of the mines. The State Government has ensured compliance with the court order.

RAJASTHAN

Mining operations in the area of Aravalli hills of Rajasthan has been prohibited by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Subsequently the State Govt. of Rajasthan has banned mining activities in Aravalli Hills range and restrained operation in 52 mines (03-Major Mineral,05-Marble,03-Granite,41- Minor Mineral).

GOA

In pursuance of W.P.(civil) 435/2012 filed by Goa Foundation in the Apex Court, mining activities was banned in the State of Goa w.e.f. 5.10.2012 by Hon'ble Supreme Court. However, the suspension of mining activities have been lifted by the Apex Court vide its interim order dated 21st April 2014 with Annual capping of 20MT of excavation along with other conditions. The Mining operations have resumed in Goa in compliance of Supreme Court order.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Mining in the Keran Limestone Mine of M/s Harish Cements Ltd located in the Mandi district has not yet started as the matter is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

KARNATAKA

The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 27.07.2011 in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No.562 of 2009 ordered complete ban of mining operation in Bellary, Chitradurga and Tumkur districts of Karnataka. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its second order in Sept'', 2012 entrusted Central Empowered Committee (CEC) to submit the report in this regard. The CEC in turn constituted a joint survey team and surveyed 166 iron ore leases. Based on the extent of irregularities, the CEC classified the mines into 3

categories A, B & C and a ceiling of 30 MMT productions per annum has been prescribed which has been approved by the Hon''ble Supreme Court.